# American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.

**VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 21** 

WASHINGTON, D. C.

**FEBRUARY 13, 1939** 

# Crime in U. S. Exacts A Tremendous Toll

America Not in Midst of Crime Wave, But Problem Remains of First Importance

#### NO SINGLE CURE POSSIBLE

Youthfulness of Nation, Poverty, and Corrupt Politics Are Among the Outstanding Causes

A good many of the problems with which we as a people are grappling today are of fairly recent origin. But there is one which, year in and year out, almost from the beginning of our national history, has been with this nation. That is the oftmentioned crime problem. Nor is it a problem which plagues only the national government. It reaches into every city, town, village, and hamlet of the country. The nature of crime may change from decade to decade, but its seriousness remains practically unchanged from one generation to the next.

No one knows exactly how much we pay each year for crime. Certainly it is as much as the cost of our national government, with its billions of dollars of annual expenditures. The law-enforcement committee of the American Bar Association estimates that the annual crime bill of the United States is in the neighborhood of \$15,000,000,000. This is probably as reliable an estimate as any, although some authorities give a higher figure and some a lower. Whatever the figure, it is far too high and gives to America the reputation of being the most lawless of the civilized nations.

#### Permanent Crime Wave

It is not the spectacular crimes, those which break into streaming headlines in the newspapers, which constitute the heart of the crime problem of the United States. It is the less dramatic type of crime, the crimes against life and property which exert such a destructive influence upon our civilization. The world of crime is not a world of glamour or romance or adventure, as one might imagine from reading fiction and newspaper accounts of it. Crime is perhaps our most serious social disease, and it is no more pleasant to contemplate than the other social ailments.

Complete statistics on crime in the United States are not available. Yet it is known that the American homicide rate is higher than that of any country; that there are 20 times as many people killed in this country as in Great Britain, 50 times as many robberies, and three times as many burglaries. Despite the inadequacy of the figures on crime, it is obvious that crime constitutes one of our most serious national problems.

One word of caution at this point seems necessary. Many people have assumed that America is in the midst of a crime wave and that, as a nation, we are sinking deeper into crime. With this idea in mind, they have become alarmist and have asked what we are coming to if the tendency to criminality continues. It really is not true that crime is becoming more prevalent in this country. If there is a crime wave in America, it is a permanent wave. There has been a great deal of crime from the earliest days of the nation. In many respects, the situation was worse early in our history than it is now. Back in the

(Concluded on page 8)



GALLOWAY

ROAD SCENE IN TANGANYIKA, FORMER GERMAN COLONY

#### **Honesty Is An Asset**

By WALTER E. MYER

A reputation for honesty built upon the fact of honesty is a tremendous asset. It is an asset even to a student. There are students in every class whom everyone knows to be unflinchingly honest. There are students who would never lie or misrepresent or pretend to know something they do not know, or cheat in an examination. The teacher knows this and the fellow students know it. These honest students are not "goody-goody." They are not going about boasting of their honor, but there is something about their poise and deportment and their daily conduct, and the way they look you in the eye, that simply tells the world of their straightforwardness and uprightness. Now the teacher likes and trusts such students. So do their companions. This is a good thing for them in school. Everyone thinks of them as being dependable. They are well liked. And these qualities and attainments will mean just as much in the years to come as they mean in school.

There are other students who may not be very dishonest, but who are just a bit tricky. They will invent excuses for nonperformance of duty. Perhaps they may cheat just a little bit in a difficult examination if the teacher's back is turned. No, they are not entirely dishonorable, but they are not altogether dependable. If persons are to be chosen for really responsible positions, it will not be they. They are just a little bit suspect. Such students may be likable in many ways, but people will take them with certain reservations. They will not be wholeheartedly trusted, and this lack of confidence may stand mightily in their way at times.

We all know of fine old business houses which have gone through the years with the confidence of the people—a confidence which has been built up through years of ruggedly honest practice. This reputation for honesty is an asset beyond price. Whether one is going into business or is working for somebody else or is merely associating with his friends; whether he is a student, a farmer, a mechanic, a merchant, or a manufacturer, he will be going in the direction of success if he tells the truth and always engages in honest practices. Truthfulness alone will not insure success. You need to bring to your tasks industry, patience, intelligence, skill, tact, courtesy; all these and other virtues, but honesty should unfailingly be one of the stones upon which you undertake to build your lives and your careers.

# Africa Uneasy Over New Hitler Demands

Native Restlessness Increases as British Weigh Return of German Colonies

#### IMPERIALIST DEAL IS FEARED

Portugal and Lesser Powers Suspect Any Anglo-German Deal Would Be at Their Expense

One of the most important points in Hitler's recent speech to the German Reichstag (discussed in The American Observer last week) concerned the colonies which Germany lost to Great Britain, France, Belgium, and Portugal at the close of the World War. Hitler wants these colonies returned. He has said so off and on, directly and indirectly, ever since he assumed power in 1933. Because of his responsible position as German Fuehrer, and because other problems have pressed more strongly upon him, Hitler himself has generally confined his colonial discussions to arguments as to why Germany should have them returned.

#### Insistent Demand

But sharp and scarcely courteous demands on the part of his associates, coupled with other developments in Germany, reveal that the Nazis have every intention of getting their former colonies back. Indications are that the present drive for colonies was begun shortly after the conclusion of the Munich conference last fall. At that time, one of Hitler's deputies said: "Our claim is to all our former colonies. Whether, when the actual moment for bargaining for them comes, we shall show restraint is for the future to decide. If we do, then we shall demand compensation for what we do not claim."

The significance of this statement lies in the fact that it was uttered by General Franz Ritter von Epp, who, although Germany has no colonies, bears the title "Deputy of the Fuehrer for Colonial Affairs." Further, it was delivered at the opening of a new colonial school at Ladeburg. There are now three such schools in Germany which offer three-year courses in tropical agriculture and administration. According to the catalogue of one, it is "waiting for the time when, after the solution of the colonial question, it can send all its students to land overseas over which the German flag will fly."

When the British people first began to hear of these demands they were incredulous. In response to a poll of the British Institute of Public Opinion last fall, 85 per cent of them voted against the return of any former German colonies. To the significant question, "Would you rather fight than hand them back?" 78 per cent answered "yes."

But in spite of these indications as to the strength of British opinion, and of the warlike attitude of the Nazis since Munich, Mr. Chamberlain's government has continued to weigh the return of German colonies, either in whole or in part. At least one cabinet session has been devoted to this problem alone. Recently both Mr. Chamberlain and Viscount Halifax have suggested that the return of her former colonies to Germany is still under consideration, but that it can only be discussed as a part of a general European "appeasement" conference.

While the colonial question hangs in (Continued on page 3)

# **Facts About Magazines**

### **Business Week and Financial World**

THE business point of view on American affairs has been can affairs has been regarded in the past as a special thing, an almost inner-circle attitude or cult, in fact. In the daily newspaper this is suggested by the grouping of the financial news in a special section, like sports or fashions. Yet business is of vital concern to everyone-in the larger sense, business is the economic aspect of all our lives—and more and more of the front-page news, ever since 1929, has been business news. Just as the average American first grew interested foreign affairs at the time of the World War, so it took the great crash and its 10year aftermath to make our public universally economics-minded and bring business, as a topic, out of the hands of the investor class alone.

There are several business magazines but two weeklies which reflect what has just been stated are Financial World and Business Week. Both are ably edited, firmly established, and have proud reputations for integrity. But their policies are entirely distinct and, taken together, they make an interesting contrast.

Financial World is the older by 25 years.

It was founded in 1902 by Otto Guenther, a New York financial writer who went down to Texas to cover the big oil rush and was struck with the need of a publication that would protect the against fraud. There were no "blue sky" laws in those days, and Financial World set out on an antiswindling crusade which led it through exciting years. Gradually its service of advice to investors, based on its pioneering battles in the cause of financial honesty, came to the fore.



(REPRODUCED THROUGH THE COURTESY OF MC-GRAW-HILL PUBLISHING COMPANY.)

It is designed today for those who have money to put into the security market; and it points out that 62 per cent of its 30,000 subscribers are in the higherincome brackets. The securities owned by said subscribers are said to total \$1,350,-000,000 or an average of \$45,000 apiece; so such weekly features as the frank discussions of stocks, investment advice, and detailed reports on the financial condition of corporations have a direct and personal

The American Observer

A Weekly Review of Social Thought and Action

Published weekly throughout the year (except two issues in December and three issues from the middle of August to the first week in September) by the CIVIC EDUCATION SERVICE, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

Subscription price, single copy, §2 a calendar year. In clubs of five or more for class use, §1 a school year or 50 cents a semester. For a term shorter than a semester the price is 3 cents a week.

eck. Entered as second-class matter Sept. , 1931, at the Post Office at Washing-n. D. C., under the Act of March 3,

EDITORIAL BOARD CHARLES A. BEARD HAROLD G. MOULTON PELIX MORLEY DAVID S. MUZZEY WALTER E. MYER, Editor

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appeal. Such information fills most of the magazine. But there is another feature also:

The publisher leads off each issue with a two-page personal utterance on Washington affairs. He disapproves of the present national administration and all its works, says so with great vigor, and if you want to know exactly what the extreme "right wing" is saying about the Roosevelt policies at any given time, get the Financial World—it will tell you in uncertain terms.

Business Week is quite of another color. It is neutral and analytical in its political attitudes; its purpose is to interpret the business news and keep its businessmen readers up to date, and it is rather in the class with *News Week* or *Fortune* as far as readability is concerned. It dates from 1929, and is one of the McGraw-Hill publications. It is staffed by brisk-minded specialists in the departments of business economy, finance, labor, and management, foreign business, money, and production.

An outstanding feature of Business

Week is its Washington staff, which works so rapidly that the day's events of any Thursday are in the magazine which makes Friday night's mail from its Albany plant. This is said to be the swiftest coverage of any of the standard weeklies. In addition to the regular departments, special feature articles, charts, and a picture page are included.

Business Week does not appear on any newsstands, its circulation of 108,000 being limited to subscribers who are largely the executives of business concerns, though

others, too, may subscribe.
Each issue gives a clear and incisive picture of the United States, the government, and the world abroad, from the business point of view. So here we have two sharply contrasting magazines, both in the same field, dealing in general with the same facts, but from vastly different angles. Financial World views the economic world as the source of an individual's wealth if he invests well and wisely. Business Week gives busy executives a quick insight into the economic scene as a mat-ter of news, with expert but neutral interpretation of events. In one, the comment is personal, in the other, impersonal.



AN IRRIGATION CANAL IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
stration in "America Begins Again," by Catherine Glover. McGraw-Hill)

# Age of Conservation Is Begun, to Save America's Natural Resources

HERE is a new kind of pioneering just getting well under way in this country today, and it is apparently ushering in a second great period in our national exist-ence. This is the Age of Conservation, or saving of our great natural resources, which have been badly wasted and squandered in the outgoing Era of Exploitation of the past half-century or more. Because it bears so directly on the major question of whether this is going to be a rich and fruit-ful nation in the future, today's conservation movement is of the utmost importance.

When this huge, empty country was first settled, it had a matchless abundance of fertile soil, vast forests, tremendous mineral wealth, rich fisheries, plentiful wild life, and great navigable rivers of pure water It was easily the richest country on earth, and such a land seemed capable of support-ing countless millions of healthy population. We are still among the wealthier nations, but this seems remarkable in view of the way these great resources, by wasteful methods, have been squandered and abused.

In two different books just off the press, both the dark and the bright sides of this picture are very strikingly described, and illustrated with photographs. One is devoted entirely to the question of water conservation, and is entitled "Water—

Wealth or Waste," by William Clayton Prior and Helen Sloman Prior (New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company. \$2.50). The other, which covers the broader field of conservation along every line, is fittingly entitled "America Begins Again"; it is by Katherine Glover, with a foreword by Stuart Chase (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company. \$1.76).

Now that the Ohio River is again on its annual rampage, it is timely to be reminded that erosion is one of the most serious national menaces. Of our entire area some 522,000,000 acres have been tilled and put into crops in the past. Of these, 200,000,000 acres have already been seriously damaged by erosion, 100,000,000 of which are ruined or virtually so. Another 100,000,000 have suffered some damage. So 57 per cent of our crop land is in need of repair; and the process of repair is under way on a scale that is large, but not too large for the job that lies ahead.

In charge of this repairing work, for the federal government, is the Bureau of Soil Conservation of the Department of Agriculture. Congress established it in 1935. By means of experimental stations set up in many regions, it is working with thousands of individual farmers, encouraging them to use plowing and planting methods which will keep the soil from washing away. The United States Forest Service, the Civilian Conservation Corps, the various state departments and colleges of agriculture, the Agricultural Extension Service, and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, with its contracts with great numbers of farmers, all are uniting in this soil conservation campaign.

Twenty-six states now have passed soil conservation acts, setting up districts for erosion-control work; with the result that millions of acres of farmland have already felt the benefit. We are far indeed from the original condition, which saw most of America covered with a rich seven-inch topsoil, but at any rate the corner has been turned and America is getting back its fertility more rapidly than ever before

As to timber, the story is less hopeful. Only five per cent of this country's timberlands are being handled today by methods that permit the trees to grow as rapidly as they are cut. In mining, the richer de-posits of iron, copper, coal, oil, lead, and while many years' supply is left, it must be realized that there are resources which can never be replaced. There is need for progress in both lumber and mineral conservation.

Water is either our best friend or worst enemy, according to how the rivers and the run-off problem is handled; and here a work is afoot that is literally tremendous. Great dams are being built, mainly by the federal government, at a rate never before seen in the world. Fish and game are getting more plentiful again. If our cities would quit polluting the watercourses, thus allowing the fish to live, this source of national wealth would soon revive.

#### With the Magazines

"Over Here." Here," by Raymond Gram Survey Graphic, February 1939, Swing. St.

"Over Here," by Raymond Gram Swing. Survey Graphic, February 1939, pp. 55-61.

In a special issue of Survey Graphic, this article heads the list of a whole series devoted to "The Challenge of Democracy." Mr. Swing's article defines this challenge. America, he writes, like the rest of the world, is in the midst of a "fundamental evolution" toward a new order of life. With Europe as an example of the way nations can go backwards toward a worse order, he believes that America must become aware of the changes she is undergoing, must face the faults of democracy itself, and attempt to protect her people by removing these faults.

"Buy as You Go," by John T. Flynn. Scribners, February 1939, pp, 25-27, 37-39.

Mr. Flynn examines the system of installment buying and selling, lists its advantages and risks, and concludes that it is the logical and probably the best system under the present capitalist system of credit. He advises would-be reformers of installment buying to go slowly since they might retard the whole process of production if they seek to abolish it completely.

"The Germans in Germany," by Harold Callender. Current History, February 1939, pp. 22-24.

An inside picture of the German people's reaction to the latest policies of Hitler is given by this foreign correspondent who has just returned from an extensive tour of Germany. In his contacts with unofficial sources in that country, the writer found that the Germans as a whole were not in favor of

the latest Jewish purge or the attacks on the churches. They look on Hitler's aggres-sive moves toward the East with a growing fear of the consequences. Shortage of food, constant riots of storm troopers, and fear



of the concentration camp are some of the worst burdens that the German people bear.

"The Wisconsin Brothers," by Elmer Davis. *Harpers*, February 1939, pp. 268-

Davis. Harpers, February 1939, pp. 268-277.

To those who believe that political trends can be traced in the careers of strong political figures, this article gives a vivid study of two of the outstanding "progressive" leaders of the day—Phil and Bob La Follette. The writer gives a vivid personality study of these two sons of the famous Robert Marion La Follette. In addition he draws the ups and downs of their careers, describes Bob's success in the Senate, tells the causes of Phil's recent defeat for the governorship of Wisconsin, and predicts that they will continue to be prominent on the national scene.

"Painting America's Portrait," by

"Painting America's Portrait," by Murdock Pemberton. Travel, February 1939, pp. 6-13.

The rise of mural art in the United States and its reflection of many phases of American life are described by this writer. He attributes this new interest in large-scale painting to the federal government's subsidies of painters and its use of murals in state buildings. This article with its illustrations gives an interesting cross section of American life.

# German Colonial Question Comes to Fore Again

(Continued from page 1)

balance in Europe, many eyes are shifting to Africa and to the lands and peoples who will be affected by any change in the status quo on that continent. The bulk of the quo on that continent. The bulk of the former German colonies lie in that part of Africa between the southern fringes of the Sahara and the Cape of Good Hope. Be-fore the war the German African holdings covered an area more than a million miles square (five times the size of Germany), and contained some 15,000,000 people, only 22,000 of which were whites, and 18,500 Germans. The German colonies then in-cluded the Cameroons and Togoland, two jungle republics on the Gulf of a: the semidesert region of Southwest Africa, and a large stretch on the east coast called German East Africa, most of which is now Tanganyika.

#### Former German Colonies

The German possessions were by no means the best of the African colonies for the reason that Germany was very late in getting started on a colonial career. But, for that matter, so were other European powers. It was not until the last half of the nineteenth century that growing trade rivalries in Europe, the need of raw ma-terials and the opening of the Suez Canal, prompted a sudden scramble among the great powers to stake off as much of Africa as they could in the shortest possible time



MAIN STREET IN TANGA, PRINCIPAL TOWN IN TANGANYIKA

Because of her navy, England was able to seize the best parts, while France and other powers trailed. Germany did not enter the race until 1884, and had to complete her colonial building in five years. By 1889 there was nothing left but Abyssinia, which repelled an Italian invasion, and the tiny state of Liberia, founded by the United States to provide a haven for American Negroes who wished to return to Africa.

When Germany met defeat in the World War, all her colonies were taken from her. Dominating the League of Nations as they did, Britain and France had little difficulty in persuading that body to mandate the bulk of former German possessions to them. Togoland and the Cameroons were divided between England and France; Southwest Africa went to the Union of South Africa, and German East Africa was split four ways among England (which got the lion's share), France, Portugal, and Belgium.

#### Natives Exploited

It goes almost without saying that the people most concerned in the African partitions—the Negroes who lived there—had no say as to who would or would not govern them. For more than four centuries they had been considered legitimate spoil by the brown and white races. Even after the slave trade was largely done away with, their lot was not a happy one. Under presumably enlightened European rule, missionaries came to a village one day, soldiers the next, and traders on another. All had different things to offer, threaten, or de-The Negroes were bewildered and confused. Unspeakable cruelties were perpetrated on them, some deliberate and some merely careless. The administrations of King Leopold in the Belgian Congo, and of the Germans in Southwest Africa were so cruel as to shock the world. Natives were forced to labor for practically no wages, and were whipped, mutilated, or

Since the redistribution of colonies at the close of the war, the lot of the 120,-000,000 African Negroes has undoubtedly There has been less of the de liberate type of cruelty, and exploitation has been moderated. But matters have not been happy, by any means. British-controlled Kenya colony, where the small European minority exercised its ruling power to force the natives out of the habitable highland regions into the steaming and malarial lowlands, furnishes one ex-The administration of the Union South Africa-supposedly one of the best on the continent-offers another. In British dominion the natives outnumber Europeans about seven to one. the natives are allowed practically no voice in the "democratic" government, and hardly a voice even in their own affairs. Laws restricting them to certain parts of the Union, and laws which have the effect of forcing them to engage in certain types of labor or starve, combine to form the basis of what some have called a growing caste system, not unlike that of India.

These two examples are more the rule than the exception. Throughout Negro Africa there is economic depression, and social unrest fanned by propaganda, both Nazi and anti-Nazi. The reopening of the colonial question has left the southern part of the continent restless and uneasy, apprehensive of what may be yet to come. But, as we have mentioned, the natives will not have anything to say about whether German rule shall again be extended over them, nothwithstanding propaganda. power of decision no longer lies in the League of Nations, which is supposed to protect them. For the present it is limited to Germany, on one side, and to England, France, Belgium, and Portugal, in diminishing degrees of importance, on the other.

#### Germany's Position

The German position is that these colonies constitute "stolen goods." They were wrested from Germany while she was weak. Now that she is strong again they must be returned, with no strings attached, and no

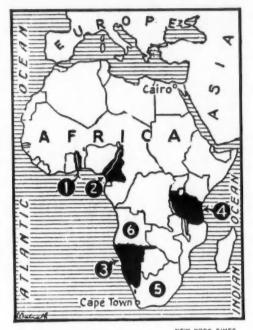
questions asked. It is a matter of prestige. Is it fair, Nazi spokes-men ask, that such a bankrupt state as Portugal should hold a colonial empire and Germany none? Or should the Netherlands? Or Belgium?

More important, perhaps, are Nazi assertions that Germany needs colonies as a source of raw materials to provide a broad base and a reserve for her impressive industrial structure. More than any other great power in Europe, Germany feels a pressing need for raw materials—in particular for iron, rubber, petroleum, cot-ton, and copper. England, France, and Russia all have resources to draw upon, either at home or beyond the seas. But Germany has few, and therefore must have colonies.

Some British have recognized a certain element of justice in the German claims. Others have argued that Germany is free to trade where she chooses. She can

buy iron, copper, oil, cotton, and rubber abroad just as can any other nation. In the Americas, in Africa, and in Asia she can buy what she wants, just as other powers can buy what they want. Why should Germany need colonies?

To this the Germans are quick to reply that in order to buy, they must be able to sell, since they have little gold. But this is very difficult, for there have been so many tariffs and restrictive quotas raised against German goods. Today Germany is at the point where it is virtually impossible for her to place large orders abroad without resorting to the barter system and offering her own manufactured goods in exchange. With her own colonies—if she had any—she would have no such difficulties. She could trade with them on her own terms, but with British colonies and with other powers, she can only trade on other people's terms and at other powers' In time of war these markets could



GERMANY'S FORMER AFRICAN COLONIES

once holds mandates for Togoland (1) and Camerons (2), with minor interest allowed to Great Britain in both; South Africa (5) Ids a mandate for Southwest Africa (3), and Britain, a man-date for Tanganyika (4).

be closed to her, and her industries strangled. For these reasons, Nazi spokes-men reject any such suggestions.

#### Value of Colonies

On the other hand, the colonies lost by Germany in the war contain little wealth. In the critical raw materials they are very deficient. Togoland and the Cameroons have brought little profit to British or French. Southwest Africa has brought little gain to the Union of South Africa, although it has been considered valuable for purposes of defense. Tanganyika has proved of value only inasmuch as it connects two strings of British African possessions and permits a continuous corridor from the Cape to Egypt. Cotton, copra, vanadium, sisal, copper, lead, and peanuts are produced in small quantities, but nowhere near enough to pay the cost of their defense and policing.
(Concluded on page 6, column 4)

# The Committee System at Work in Congress

Congress stayed continuously in session, eight hours a day, six days a week, and 52 weeks a year, and if all bills that are introduced in Congress had to be voted on by the full Senate and House of Representatives, it has been calculated that a vote would have to be taken every 10 minutes. This would be an obvious im-possibility. It would not allow time even for the roll calls, much less for any discussion or debate.

This serves to explain why both Senate and House are organized into a system of committees, and why the committees are actually our most important legislative bodies, each in its special field. The House, especially, has little, if any, unity as a legis-lative or debating body, except when it comes to confirming, perhaps after amendwhat some committee has already done.

The Senate, being smaller, keeps its unity much better than the House; but here, too, the committees are very important. There must be some way of weeding out the endless proposals for new laws. So effective is the weeding-out process that 90 to 95 per cent of all bills die in the Senate or House committee rooms, and the committee system has been nicknamed the Graveyard of Legislation.

But the five to 10 per cent of bills that do get out of committee are much more carefully considered than could otherwise be the case. Committee members in time become specialists in their fields. Congress has a division of labor. After a representative or senator has put in several terms on the committee on Agriculture, or For-eign Relations, or Naval Affairs, or Civil Service, he deserves to rank as an expert in the given subject; and the chairmen of main committees become eminent figures in our government.

The House of Representatives has about

50 standing, or permanent, committees; the Senate about 35. There are some joint committees of both House and Senate, and also each Congress has its special commit-tees, like the Dies Committee, set up for that term of Congress alone. In general, that term of Congress alone. In general, the standing committees of House and Senate have much the same names, such as Appropriations, Banking and Currency, Civil Service, Judiciary, Military Affairs, Naval Affairs, and Rules; but there are sevvariations, as Agriculture in the House and Agriculture and Forestry in the Senate, Foreign Affairs in the House and Foreign Relations in the Senate. The type of bill considered by each is indicated by its name.

Two committees are of such special im-portance that their acts should be much

A BILL GOES TO COMMITTEE awing by Roy C. Schatt in "How Cong Laws," by C. C. Dill, Ransdell, Inc.)

more public, and more generally watched, than they are. The first is the House Com-mittee on Rules; it controls the procedure, fixes the internal laws by which the House must work, and by so doing it actually controls the fate of much vital legislation. Some regard the "conference" committees of the Senate and House as even more important. This requires a word of ex-planation. When House and Senate have passed differing pieces of legislation on the same subject, the committees of the two bodies on that subject get together in what is termed "conference," and try to iron out the differences. The unified bill is then resubmitted, for final passage, to both House and Senate.

All the chairmen of committees are, as the party system would naturally indicate, Democrats at the present time. Republicans are in the minority on each. This is one feature of the committee system which has been commonly criticized, on the ground that a minority party may have men of outstanding ability on this or that topic, and such men should rank as chair-But in practice, debate in each committee is entirely free, and expertness carries weight when it does not simply reflect the party angle. Minority members of any committee may, further, submit a report or air their contrary arguments when the measure comes before the full House or Senate.

Another criticism brought against the committee system is that it decentralizes the House of Representatives to the point where it loses its quality as a deliberative assembly. But the House itself is so unwieldy in size, with its 435 members as against the Senate's 96, and it must consider so many topics, that it is hard to see how it could do business at all unless it were subdivided.



TENNESSEE VALLEY master project in the flood control

## Foreign Policy

An airplane crashed outside Los Angeles about three weeks ago. The pilot was killed, but a passenger in the plane was rescued. Later it was learned that that passenger was an official of the French government, and that the plane was one which the United States Army had designed, with a view to purchasing a number of them if they proved satisfactory. Presumably the Frenchman was in-specting the plane for a similar reason. That news set off a lively discussion in

DOMESTIC

Washington. Senators and representatives wanted to know why a French official was allowed to inspect a plane in which our army Washington. was interested. Then President Roosevelt announced that the French government planned to buy several hundred airplanes from American factories. He thoroughly approved of the sale he said; in fact, he himself had facilitated matters. He gave as a reason the fact that the American factories need orders at present to keep running at top speed.

But many members of Congress were not satisfied with that explanation. They inquired—publicly—if the sale of airplanes to the French means that the United States is helping France and England to arm against Germany and Italy. Is this nation taking sides by helping the democracies against the dictatorships? And are not such actions likely to lead the United States into the European



DOWN BELOW

war which experts seem to think is inevitably

At this point, the President called 17 members of the Senate's Military Affairs Committee to the White House. He talked with them for an hour and a half. Before they left, he asked that no publicity be given to what had been said. But within a few hours after the senators departed, reporters in Wash-

ington had what was claimed to be a complete and accurate account of the "secret" meeting.

The President, it was said, had told the senators that the United States should do whatever it could to strengthen France and England. By doing so, this country will show the dictatorships where it stands; it may help to deter Germany and Italy from becoming too aggressive, and thus may stave off a war. It is to our interests to help France and England, the President is supposed to have argued; in fact, one report claimed that he told the senators that the United States' frontiers are now in France.

The reaction to these reports was immediate and intense. Those who believe as the President evidently does cheered his stand. But those who believe that the United States should stay strictly out of European affairs, should stay strictly out of European affairs, that we should maintain a policy of complete isolation, attacked him vigorously. Senators Nye, Clark, and Johnson spoke out on the floor of the Senate. Ex-President Hoover denounced the President's policy.

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# and Abroad

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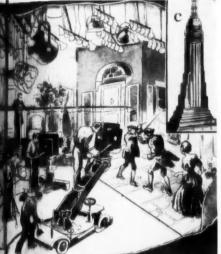
and Ilia Tolstoy at a cost of half a million dollars. Although many visitors stop at Marine Studios, it is intended primarily for scientists. There are many things which science does not know about the habits of sea reatures, and which cannot be learned by watching them in ordinary aquariums. But at Marine Studios, observers see life just as it is lived in the depths of the ocean. Also, the tanks are constructed so that it is possible for pictures to be taken of what goes on

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The protests of the United States, England, and France over the closing of China to international trade have been flatly rejected. The Japanese government has stated that it will not agree to a general conference on China that it will not reconsider its stated policies in China, but that it will agree to deal with each power singly.

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#### India's Millions

For many years the civilized world has been familiar with the name of Mohandas K. (Mahatma) Gandhi as belonging to a small, thin, emaciated man who subsists largely on rice, vegetables, and goats' milk, and who leads the great masses of underprivileged Indian peoples. It has seemed to many hardly conceivable that such a slight and modest man could be the leader of the powerful Congress party that rules all but two Indian states (to the extent that it is allowed to do so under the British-sponsored constitution of 1935), and which is supported by a large number of India's 350 million peoples.

Recently there have been indications that Gandhi is losing control of his party. His ideas of passive resistance to imperialism and exploitation no longer seem to contain their former appeal. A more vigorous, militant, and decidedly "leftist" group is gaining control of the Congress party. By a vote of 1,575 to 1,376 this group has recently entrenched itself and confined the Gandhi forces to a minority position within the party. The reason for this gradual shift of power apparently rests in a widespread feeling that the Gandhi policies have not borne fruit, and that vigorous steps must be taken to lighten the heavy load of debt and taxes, and to alleviate the degrading poverty that has weighed down the Indian peasant for centuries.

Apparently heeding the warning signals, the



The capital of Uruguay is the scene of several important international conferences.

Province of Bombay has announced the liberation of 40,000 serfs—unfortunate peasants who have been so long and so hopelessly in debt that no way out seemed possible. Whether the British viceroy and the enormously wealthy Indian princes will grant sufficient concessions to counteract the growing militancy of the Congress party, however, only future events will reveal.





TENNESSEE VALLEY Dam, master project in the flood control and power manufacturing system being established in the Tennes-see Valley.

# DOMESTIC

## Foreign Policy

An airplane crashed outside Los Angeles about three weeks ago. The pilot was killed, but a passenger in the plane was rescued. Later it was learned that that passenger was an official of the French government, and that the plane was one which the United States Army had designed, with a view to purchasing a number of them if they proved satisfactory. Presumably the Frenchman was in-

specting the plane for a similar reason.

That news set off a lively discussion in Washington. Senators and representatives wanted to know why a French official was wallowed to inspect a plane in which our army was interested. Then President Roosevelt announced that the French government planned to buy several hundred airplanes from American factories. He thoroughly approved of the sale he said; in fact, he himself had facilitated matters. He gave as a reason the fact that the American factories need orders at present to keep running at top speed.

But many members of Congress were not

satisfied with that explanation. They inquired—publicly—if the sale of airplanes to the French means that the United States is helping France and England to arm against Germany and Italy. Is this nation taking sides by helping the democracies against the dictatorships? And are not such actions likely to lead the United States into the European



war which experts seem to think is inevitably

At this point, the President called 17 members of the Senate's Military Affairs Committee to the White House. He talked with them for an hour and a half. Before they left, he asked that no publicity be given to what had been said. But within a few hours after the senators departed, reporters in Wash-

ington had what was claimed to be a complete and accurate account of the "secret" meeting.

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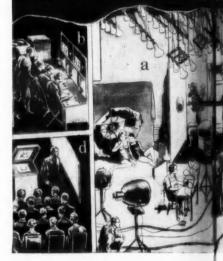
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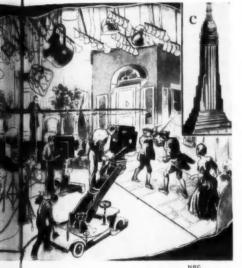
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ally may mean is not known. It will be remembered, however, that similar fighting at Changkufeng last summer died away without

#### India's Millions

For many years the civilized world has been familiar with the name of Mohandas K. (Mahatma) Gandhi as belonging to a small, thin, emaciated man who subsists largely on rice, vegetables, and goats' milk, and who leads the great masses of underprivileged In-dian peoples. It has seemed to many hardly conceivable that such a slight and modest man could be the leader of the powerful Congress party that rules all but two Indian states (to the extent that it is allowed to do so under the British-sponsored constitution of 1935), and which is supported by a large number of India's 350 million peoples.

Recently there have been indications that Gandhi is losing control of his party. His ideas of passive resistance to imperialism and exploitation no longer seem to contain their former appeal. A more vigorous, militant, and decidedly "leftist" group is gaining control of the Congress party. By a vote of 1,575 to 1,376 this group has recently entrenched itself and confined the Gandhi forces to a minority position within the party. The reason for this gradual shift of power apparently rests in a widespread feeling that the Gandhi policies have not borne fruit, and that vigorous steps must be taken to lighten the heavy load of debt and taxes, and to alleviate the degrading poverty that has weighed down the Indian easant for centuries.

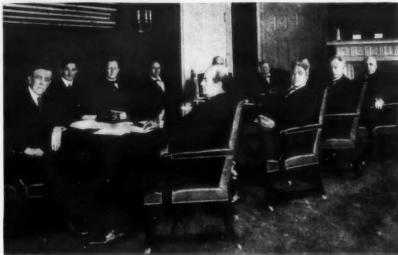
Apparently heeding the warning signals, the



MONTEVIDEO The capital of Uruguay is the scene of several important international conferences.

Province of Bombay has announced the liberation of 40,000 serfs—unfortunate peasants who have been so long and so hopelessly in debt that no way out seemed possible. Whether the British viceroy and the enormously wealthy Indian princes will grant sufficient concessions to counteract the growing militancy of the Congress party, however, only future events will reveal.





OW WILSON AND CABINET DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF HIS PRESIDENCY right sits Secretary of State Bryan, who later resigned because Wilson was not pacifist ryan is Secretary of War Garrison, who later resigned because he thought Wilson was not favor of preparedness. At Wilson's left is Secretary of the Treasury McKado, next to y General McReynolds, who later become a justice of the Supreme Court. Seated beside McReynolds is Secretary Daniels, who is now ambassador to Mexico.

### Backgrounds Historical

### American Foreign Policy, Past and Present

A T no time since those months immediately before America entered the World War, or perhaps during the early postwar period when the question of American membership in the League of Nations was a national issue, has the question of the foreign policy of the United States been more widely debated by the American people than at present. The old question of isolation, which was so largely responsible for the failure of Woodrow Wilson, has

DAVID S. MUZZEY

again raised its head as the nation debates whether to stand aloof from develop-ments in Europe or whether to lend at least moral, and perhaps economic, sup-port to the European democracies in their effort to stem the fascist tide which has

swelled to such proportions during the last

#### Fundamental Issue

The controversy which is now dividing the nation into two opposing camps—those who believe that the United States should cooperate with Great Britain and France, and those who favor a policy of strict isolation, or absolute neutrality, in the dispute which has divided Europe—raises funda-mental issues of American foreign policy; issues which have been with us since the days of the republic, and issues which have played an important part in America's involvement in past wars

One of the basic principles of American foreign policy, from the early days until the World War, was that of neutral rights. The United States government has always insisted upon those rights which are guaranteed by international law to neutral na-tions. It has insisted upon the right to sell goods to belligerent states, except articles which might be used by the warring articles which might be used by the warring nations to prosecute the war, articles known as "contraband" of war. The American policy has been that warring nations had no right to interfere with all other trade. It was the violation of these neutral rights which was responsible, partially at least, for American involvement in European struggles. It would be a mistake to

least, for American involvement in European struggles. It would be a mistake to assume that the War of 1812 was caused solely by violation of American rights on the part of the British. Other factors, such as the impressment of American seamen and the agitation of the "War Hawks," played their part. But the issue was undoubtedly resolved more by the violation of what we considered to be our rights as neutrals than by any other single cause. As a matter of fact, the most harassing

task of all administrations during the Napoleonic Wars was to secure respect for our neutral rights on the part of both the English and the French. Both belligerents flagrantly violated them.

#### World War Experience

When the World War broke out, President Wilson immediately issued a proclamation of neutrality, indicating that the United States would insist upon its traditional policy of trading with both groups of warring nations. From the beginning of hostilities, however, both the Germans and the British ignored the rules of international law with respect to neutral rights and interfered with American commerce on the high seas. Protest after protest was lodged with the British and the German governments, but to no avail. At one time, the strain with Great Britain became so intense as to threaten war with this country. If the weight of the United States was finally thrown to the side of England and her Allies, rather than against them, it was due primarily to the more ruthless interference of the Germans.

During the years following the World War, the feeling became widespread that the United States had been drawn into two foreign wars largely as a result of its tradi-tional neutrality policy. By insisting upon the right to trade with nations at war, it was felt, this country eventually was drawn into the war. For this reason, the movement to reverse the traditional policy made rapid headway and Congress passed the neutrality legislation which is now on the statute books. The purpose of this legislation is to remove these causes by for-bidding the sale of munitions to belligerents, the making of loans to nations at war, by refusing to protect the trade of Amerians with belligerents.

When this neutrality legislation was passed, a preponderance of opinion in the country was in favor of it, most people feeling that it would insure the United States against involvement in a future European war. Since that time, however, events in Europe have tended to create a division of opinion. The aggressive policies of the fascist powers, resulting in their dominance over the European continent, and the possibility that eventually they may extend their influence to the Western Hemisphere and thus threaten the security United States; all this has led to the feeling, in certain quarters, that the tremendous weight of this nation should be thrown on the side of the democracies in order to prevent the extension of fascist influence and to reduce the likelihood of war. What percentage of the people favors this course and what percentage adheres to the policy of strict isolation and neu-trality, cannot be gauged.

# Locate Yourself!

Types of Students and Analysis of Prospe

#### Type 17

THIS type of student is equipped with a strong body and sturdy constitution and is interested in a career in which he may use his physical assets. He does not want to enter a vocation which will confine him indoors and keep him fastened to a desk At the same time he is not particularly interested in any of the skilled trades which would offer him outdoor work and physical

There are a number of fields in which this type of student might locate himself Two excellent fields are police and fire service, both of which offer a number advantages to the enterprising young man. In the first place, the income of firemen and policemen is rather better than the average. The average yearly income of firemen and policemen is in the neighborhood of \$2,000, and those who rise in rank earn even more.

Certain disadvantages, however, should be taken into account by young men who are considering either of these careers. In many localities, appointments are made largely on a political basis, with the result that one is never certain of obtaining a job. A wise, safe course would be for a young man to prepare for some other vocation, always keeping in mind the possibility of obtaining a job in police or fire work if the opportunity presents itself. In any event, he will have to wait until he is 21 before taking such a position as that is the minimum age requirement.

The important thing to do is to investigate the local situation before making a decision. A growing number of cities seem to be turning to the merit system in making appointments to their fire and police departments. Competitive examinations, testing both the mental and physical qualifications of the applicants, are given. In these cases, ability is recognized and the chances are really bright for a young man with ability. At the present time, unfortunately, there are no special courses which offer training for this type of work, except those offered by the local governments to those who have already received appointments.

A word of caution should be given to those contemplating a career in police and fire work. This type of work is not all fire work. filled with adventure and glamour as a good many fictionalized accounts of its nature might indicate. Much of the day's duties consists of routine jobs of a humdrum naapprenticeship on the local police force. There are relatively few of the highly publicized "G-Men" and those positions are extremely difficult to obtain. In all, there are fewer than a thousand of them employed by the Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice. In order to qualify, one must have exceptional training and ability. should be sure that he has the

physical requirements as well as the moral stamina before he considers the possibility of police or fire work, but he should not ignore the mental aspect entirely. Whatever the standards in this respect may have been in the past, the indications are that in the future higher mental achievements and equipment will be required of those who enter police work.

# **Colony Question** Comes Up Again

(Concluded from page 3)

Nazis are not impressed by this point either. Very well, they say, if the colonies are so worthless, then there is no reason why you should trouble yourselves over them any longer. Hand them over to Let us worry about the costs of polic-and defense. They hold that producing and defense. tion figures could be greatly increased if given the stimulus of German organization and administration—an argument for which there is undoubtedly much to be said.

One other argument often presented in support of the German claims is that of the alleged necessity for an outlet for Germany's large and rapidly increasing population—an argument that probably can be discounted in view of the unfavorable climate of tropical Africa. With the exception of limited upland regions in German East Africa (Tanganyika), the former German colonies are hardly suited to German colonization. Togoland, the Cameroons, and the Tanganyika lowlands are hot, moist, and fever ridden, containing something that saps the vitality of white men.

If only prestige, the need for raw materials, and an outlet for surplus population were at issue, from a British stand-point there would not seem to be much objection to returning the colonies. But such a return would mean a serious weak-ening of the British strategical position. The return of Tanganyika would break the British corridor through Africa, and force the Cape-to-Cairo air line to fly over foreign territory. It would wedge Kenya colony in between Italian and German territory and offer Germany the chance to establish naval bases close to restless India. navar bases close to restless India. A re-turn of the west coast colonies would give the Nazis opportunity to establish bases there, threatening the alternative British "life line" around Africa. The British also fear that Hitler would use the new colonies as an excuse for building a huge navy, thus depriving Britain of the one advantage she now holds.

Because of British feelings on this point, the Germans have hinted that they might be "satisfied with compensation." That phrase has an evil ring to Portugal and Belgium who fear that a solid bloc might be created in West Africa consisting of the Cameroons, Togoland, and large pieces of the Belgian Congo and Portuguese-held Angola. These small powers might object, but they can hardly do more, since they must rely on Britain to protect their colo-

The United States is also interested in the matter because some people believe both British and Germans may have designs on the small Negro state of Liberia, established by Americans and now containing the largest single source of American-controlled rubber. In addition German naval bases on the west coast of Africa would be too close to Brazil and Argentina to please Washington.



ONE OF THE DUTIES OF THE POLICEMAN IS TO PROTECT THE CHILDREN GOING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

ture which offer little excitement. There is, to be sure, a certain amount of adventure and there is a splendid opportunity to render a truly valuable service to others in both police and fire work.

One branch of police work which offers

rather promising prospects for the future is state police work. In 1934, only 11 states had organized police forces, but since that time others have established them. likelihood is that they all will before very long. Most of the state police forces are not controlled by politics and competitive examinations must be passed by applicants. For this type of work, higher qualifications are usually demanded than for the city police forces.

Many young men make the mistake of thinking they can become "G-Men," or federal agents, by serving a period of

## Personalities in the News

WILLIAM E. BORAH has served in the United States Senate since 1907. It is likely that he will have his seat there long as he wants it, for the people of Idaho have the utmost respect and admiration for him. He is nominally a Republi-can, but speaks and votes as he pleases, with little or no regard for the party to which he belongs. His latest deviation was on the relief vote. Only two Republicans voted for the full \$875,000,000 appropriation for which President Roosevelt sked, and one of them was Senator Borah.

The big, long-haired Idahoan went west from Kansas in 1891, not knowing exactly where he wanted to stop. One man advised him to go on to Portland, Oregon; another told him to get off at Boise, Idaho. Perhaps because he was tired of riding on the bumpy, dirty train, the 25-year-old lawyer stopped at Boise. He still makes his home there, although he spends most of his time in Washington.

He earned a reputation in Idaho, which was then still a frontier country, by his eloquent speeches and his honesty. Nothing could shake him from a course which he believed to be right, and he fought for his beliefs with determination and intelligence.

Senator Borah's career in Congress has been largely one of opposition. He was one of the group which stubbornly opposed President Wilson in the latter's drive to have the United States join the League of Nations. He fought the NRA. Yet he has frequently joined with President Roosevelt in other matters. He does not want the federal government to have too much power, but he fears the power of "big business" as much or more. During the 32 years he has served in Congress, he has constantly denounced monopolies and the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few.

Last summer Senator Borah became ill, and he has not yet fully recovered. It is unfortunate that he should be out of the Senate at a time when foreign policy is in the limelight, for the veteran senator is deeply interested in that subject and is an authority on it, having served for many years as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

PROBABLY no man has been in the news for more different reasons than has Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh. His solo flight to Europe; his marriage to Anne Morrow, daughter of the United States ambassador to Mexico; the kidnapping of their baby son; the trial and conviction of Bruno Hauptmann for the crime; the Lindberghs' long flights to for-eign countries; their decision to move to England; Colonel Lindbergh's work with Alexis Carrel in developing "mechanical heart"—all these have served to keep him on the front pages almost constantly for more than 12 years.

Last fall the colonel was again the subject of much newspaper comment, and for the first time a great deal of it was un-complimentary. He inspected the air forces

SENATOR WILLIAM E. BORAH

of Russia and Germany. On his return to England, it is said, he told government officials there that Germany's air force was far superior to any other, and that Russia's was woefully weak. His report, some claim, had a great deal to do with England's giving in to Chancellor Hitler on the Czechoslovakian dispute. Later, when Colonel Lindbergh visited Germany again, he received a decoration from the govern-ment. Immediately criticism was heard. It was said that he was sympathetic with the dictatorships, that he had, by re-

ceiving the decoration, endorsed Nazism.

But others uphold the colonel. They say that he is a scientist and an aviator, not a politician or a statesman. They argue that he is interested only in aviation—German, Russian, or American, and that if he did report on the strength of the air forces, he had no intention of helping Germany. Furthermore, Arthur Krock, columnist for the New York Times, wrote

When the new flying fleet of the United States begins to take the air, among those who will have been responsible for its size, its modernness, and its efficiency is Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh. Informed officials here, in touch with what Colonel Lindbergh has been doing for his country abroad, are authority for this statement, and for the further observation that criticism of any of his activities—in Germany or elsewhere—is as ignorant as it is unfair.

NE of the most important figures in the present Nazi drive for colonies is Baron General Franz Xavier Ritter von Epp, the governor of Bavaria, who has been Hitler's deputy for colonial affairs since the early days of the Nazi regime, despite the fact that Germany has not one colony outside of Europe. Baron von Epp comes of a class which did not look upon Hitler with favor at first, the great landowners, or *Junkers*. But whatever the Junkers and the high army officers thought of Hitler at first, they welcomed his pro-



CHARLES A. LINDBERGH

gram for building up a new German colonial empire, a program of which von Epp was one of the most vociferous supporters.

Von Epp is what may perhaps be called a typical product of the German officer caste. He is a good soldier who carries out orders and who expects subordinates to carry out his. From a military point of view his experience has been vast. He fought with the Far Eastern Expeditionary Force in China from 1900 to 1901, and in the campaigns against the Hereros and Hottentots in Southwest Africa from 1904 to 1906. During the World War he gained fame as commander of a well-known backwoods skiing Alpine Corps that saw a great deal of action on nearly every front upon which Germany fought. He never seemed to tire of fighting. At the close of the war, he was campaigning against the Poles, and then, finally, against the Communists, Socialists, and Social Democrats in Ger-

From a Nazi point of view, von Epp is undoubtedly an admirable figure as leader

of the colonial campaign because of his previous experience in German colonies. But there may well be some question as to whether he is very reassuring either to Europe or to the natives of the colonies Germany expects to retrieve. The cam-paigns in China and in Southwest Africa were distinguished largely by the ruthless-ness and brutality with which they were carried out. Memories of the massacres of the African natives have never died in Africa, and there seems little possibility that they will be soothed by the past and present activities of Baron von Epp.

A S Spanish Insurgent General Franco now seems on the verge of a final victory, the report that he intends to restore the monarchy to Spain has become very general. The estates and properties belonging to former King Alfonso at the time he was ousted from Spain in 1931 have been restored to him by Franco's decree. But it is not believed that Alfonso will be restored to the throne, for there was precious little about him that endeared



BARON FRANZ VON EPP

him to the Spanish people, either as a king or as a man.

The most likely candidate for the Bour-

bon throne of Spain seems to be Alfonso's third son, Prince Juan of Asturias, a young man whose qualities are said to be somewhat less objectionable than his

Juan. Prince of Asturias, is 25 years



PRINCE JUAN OF ASTURIAS

old and reputedly free of the maladies that have wracked his family for generations. His early schooling was confined largely to England where he made a number of his friends and finally served as a lieutenant in the British navy. He became heirpresumptive to the throne in 1933 when his two elder brothers abandoned their claims to the throne, one because of physical impairments, and the other (since deceased) because he wished to marry a commoner. Two years later in Rome he married Marie Mercedes, a Bourbon princess of another branch of the family. Since the outbreak of the war in Spain he has been active in his exile, and has conferred with a number of insurgent

Although Mussolini is said to be luke-warm about the restoration of the Bour-bons to the Spanish throne, it is believed that he will not offer any serious objection because Prince Juan has spent enough time in Italy to absorb a fascist point of view. It has been suggested that Prime Minister Chamberlain will not oppose the restoration because the prince spent two years in the British navy. Prince Juan's political views are somewhat of a mystery, for he has not publicly uttered them. But they will probably be of little importance, because the future king of Spain expected to be, along Italian lines, king in name only. The real power seems des-tined to remain in the hands of the dictator. General Francisco Franco.

# Something to Think About

#### Are You Sure of Your Facts?

1. According to the law-enforcement committee of the American Bar Associa-tion, what is the annual cost of crime in the United States?

ton, what is the annual cost of crime in the United States?

2. How has the nature of crime in the United States changed during the last 50 or 100 years?

3. What effect does the character of local government have upon the extent of crime in any community?

4. True or false: In the prewar period, Germany's African colonies served as a great outlet for German population.

5. True or false: A majority of people in Great Britain favor the return of Germany's former colonies to her.

6. Why was the number of government employees who "went under civil service" February 1 smaller than the original estimates?

7. Who is Juan of Asturias?

8. How has American public opinion changed during the last year or so with respect to foreign policy?

9. Name three activities of the federal government which are designed to conserve the nation's natural resources.

10. How does the editorial policy of the magazine Financial World differ from that of Business Week?

#### Can You Defend Your Opinions?

1. What do you consider to be the principal causes of crime in your community?
2. If you were asked to draw up a

munity?

2. If you were asked to draw up a 10-point program to reduce crime in the United States, what recommendations would you include?

3. Why do you think there is more crime in the United States than in most other countries?

4. Are you in favor of returning Germany's former colonies?

5. Do you think the return of these colonies would help to solve Germany's economic problems? If so, how?

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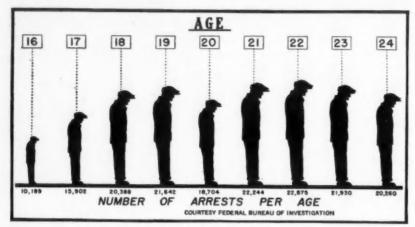
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PRONUNCIATIONS: Franz Ritter von

pairs, January 1937, pp. 223-234.

PRONUNCIATIONS: Franz Ritter von Epp (frahnts' rit'ter fon' epp'), Ladeburg lah'de-boorg), Tanganyika (tan-gan-yee'kah), Junkers (yoon'kers), Juan (hwahn'), Angola (ang-goe'lah), Azaña (a-than'yah), Burgos (boor'goes), Virginio Gayda (veer-jee'nyoe guy'dah), Montevideo (moan-tay-vee-day'oe), Oswaldo Aranha (oes-vahl'doe ah-rahn'hah), Hiranuma (hee-rah-noo'mah), Argun (ahrgoon'), Changkufeng (chang-koo-feng), Mohandas Gandhi (moe-hahn'das gahn'dee).

# The Permanent Crime Wave of the United States



(CHART FROM "UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS" OF THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.)

pioneer days, which are so frequently thought of as having been particularly wholesome, it was far more unsafe than it is today for a person to venture forth upon the roads. He was likely to be met desperadoes and bandits. Both his life and his property were in danger. It was a very common thing for one to bear marks of having been maimed in the brutal fighting which so frequently occurred among the pioneers.

#### Change in Form

The forms of crime and criminality change as time goes on. In the frontier days, the Jesse James type of desperado, the type with which we are familiar in western stories and movies, was quite common. The desperado has now about passed from the scene, but we have the racketeer, the gang, the mob in the cities; crime as big business, with killers going about in armed cars and all kinds of intricate and expensive equipment. We see gambling worked as a big industry; the "numbers" racket in the cities is an illustration. In many places, industries are obliged to pay tribute to racketeers, and the racketeers themselves may be in league with corrupt city government. All this is spectacular, and we hear a great deal about it. the total number of offenses against life and property is probably no greater in proportion to the population than it was 50 or 100 years ago.

There is some reason to believe that the future trend may be toward greater orderliness and less crime. One explanation of the presence of excessive crime in America is the fact that we have been a new frontier country. Everyone has been "on the go." People have been moving from one locality to another. There have been more chances for gain and advancement in this country than in almost any other. Larger numbers have moved rapidly up the ladder socially and economically. Hence we have tended to be a restless people, speculative in nature; and because that, a considerable number of individuals have felt that any means of mov-ing forward was justified. Those who did not get along well were not satisfied to remain in a lowly position as they would have been if they had been born in an old country where nearly all the people go through life in the same situation or at the same level at which they were born. Because our society has been dynamic and growing and speculative, there has been encouragement to illegal means of getting ahead and greater temptation along that line.

During the years to come, it seems certain that America will be settling down. We, too, are becoming an older people. There will be less movement of the population, and it is likely that we shall become less speculative. The gambling spirit will prevail to a smaller extent, and crime, which nearly always flourishes on the

frontier, may become less prevalent.

Meanwhile, we cannot be comp be complacent about crime in America. It is important that we do something about it. In this article, therefore, there will be suggested a number of possibilities of action. Remedial measures may properly be taken in the school. Many boys and girls find it very hard to get along in school and in life. Their mental equipment or their personalities may be such that it is hard for them to make their way in the world. They do not profit from courses which average young people take. If the school pays little attention to them, they are likely to get little out of it. Then, if society pays little attention to them when they school, they have no interests which lead to enjoyment and they have not the equipment or the personality to make a living; so they become floaters and they are tempted to commit crimes.

#### Remedial Action

If the boys and girls who find it hard to adjust themselves are given attention in the school; if they are guided in the selection of courses and in the development of interests suitable to their individual abilities and personalities, they will be happier in school, they will learn how to enjoy life more. Then, if, when they get out of school, they are helped to find jobs that they can handle, fewer of them will become criminals. If jobs in private industry cannot be found for them, they be taken into some branch of work furnished by society, such as the Civilian Conservation Corps. If something like this should happen to all the boys and girls going out of school; that is, to those who do not get acceptable jobs in industry, the source from which criminals come would, to a great extent, dry up, and far fewer boys and girls would grow into lives of crime.

A mighty blow against crime could be

struck by a movement for better housing. If the slums were wiped out and people vere provided with decent homes in which to live, conditions which tend to produce crime would be removed. If, in addition to this, all the cities and towns of the nation should take care to supply adequate parks and playgrounds, so that recreation might be had by everyone under whole-some conditions, far fewer individuals would find themselves stepping into paths

#### **Economic Roots**

Anything which can be done to lessen the amount of poverty in this land will be a step toward the elimination of crime. People do not commit crimes simply because they are poor. But if they are desperately poor, they are obliged to live conditions which are uninspiring, which are, in fact, degrading. An unusual individual may maintain high ideals under such conditions, but the average person finds it very difficult, if not impossible, to do so.

Perhaps the most telling blow which could be dealt at crime in America would be the establishment of good, clean government in all our cities, towns, and counties. It is a fact that in many of our cities, the bosses who control city government are in with underworld elements and league gangs. These underworld characters, gamblers, racketeers, and criminals of various sorts pay money regularly to the cheap politicians who often control city governments. They pay it for protection. And in such cities, the police officials know that they dare not arrest the criminals who pay for protection, because these criminals the friends of the "men higher up" in the city government. Prosecuting attorneys dare not prosecute. Hence the criminal gangs fasten themselves upon the cities and prey upon the population.

How is this situation to be handled? It cannot be done in any easy way. If the decent citizens of any community want good, honest government, there is only one way they can get it; and that is by going to the polls on every election day-and this means at every primary elec-tion for the nomination of officers. They must go to the polls and vote. They must take time to see that their neighbors get to the polls. They must contribute to the campaign funds of decent candidates who refuse to receive contributions from gangs and criminals. They must be as active in the effort to control local politics as the selfish politicians and the criminal ele-

Son: "Pop, are political plums raised from

seed?"
Pop: "No, son; but a lot of them are raised by grafting."
—WALL STREET JOURNAL

Waiter: "These are the best eggs we've had for years,"
Diner: "Well, bring me some that you haven't had so long."

—FROTH

Teacher (pointing to a deer at the zoo):
"Can you name that animal, Willie?"
Willie: "No'm."
Teacher: "What does your mother call your father sometimes?"

Teacher: What there sometimes?"
Willie: "Don't tell me that's a louse."
—GIMRACKS

"Is your wife economical?"
"Oh, very! We do without nearly everything I need."

—Atlanta Constitution

Small Daughter: "There was a strange man

Father: "Did he have a bill?"
Daughter: "No, papa, he just had a plain, dinary nose."

—Grit

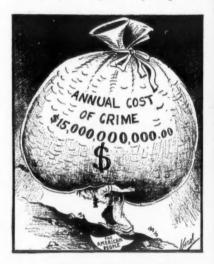
ments are. It is hard to get good and re-spectable citizens to take this interest in local government. But there is no other way, no other means, by which good government may be had. Until local government is honest and efficient, many kinds crime will flourish.

It is largely because local government in America is so often corrupt and inefficient that there is so much more crime here than in most other civilized countries of the world. In Great Britain, for example, the administration of justice is much more efficient. There is less dis-honesty, less cooperation between officers of the law and criminal gangs. Trials are speedier and justice is surer. Hence, crime is far less prevalent, and it is more quickly and more certainly punished.

#### Prison Reform

Another thing that we might do in America to reduce crime is to reform prison conditions. Our jails and prisons, in many places, are schools of crime. They are dirty and filthy, both physically and mor-ally. A chance offender, a youth who is not criminally inclined but who in a moment of temptation violates a law, is thrown into association with hardened criminals, and he comes out of jail or prison not better than when he went in, but far worse.

We speak of this matter of the reform of prisons and jails in a paragraph or two. We have space to give but passing atten-



IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE ANNUAL COST OF CRIME TO THE NATION AMOUNTS TO AROUND \$15,000,000,000.

tion to that problem; and yet it is a problem of very great importance. Intelligent and capable men and women might well devote years to a solution of it. If our jails and prisons could be made clean, and if

an intelligent effort could be made everywhere to establish conditions in these cor-rectional institutions which were wholesome, our crime problem would be mate-

rially lessened.

We are not advocating a policy of coddling prisoners or of turning them loose to prey upon society. We have said that justice should be swifter and that our courts should be improved so that there would be greater certainty that a man who had committed a crime should be found out and punished. But no one should be punished in such a way as to make him worse rather than better. No one should be subjected to life in filth, and no one, not hardened in crime, should be thrown into association with the vilest of offenders.

Only the barest outlines of the extent and the nature of the crime problem in the United States have been drawn in this article. There is no easy or simple solution to it. Its causes are many and intermingled with many of our other social ailments. A solution of that problem will naturally, by the very nature of the disease, result in a partial solution of many of the fundamental problems which beset American civilization today. It is a problem, therefore, to which every public-spirited citizen should turn his attention.

Smiles

Gentleman (at concert): "Would you mind ot talking, madam. I can't hear a bit of

not talking, magain.
the music."

Lady: "Well-educated people do not need to hear. They know 'Rigoletto' by heart."

—New Zealand RAILWAYS



"YOUR LEFT EYE IS SLIGHTLY ASTIGMATIC WITH A TRACE OF MYOPIA ENTEROPSIS, AND YOUR RIGHT EYE IS LIKE SOME DEEP, DARK, LOVELY POOL, TOO!"

"Do you think they approved of my speech?" asked the lecturer, hopeful that he had made a good impression.
"Yes, I think so," replied his wife. "They were all nodding."

Hostess: "Did you have enough to eat?"
Small Boy: "Yes ma'am. Didn't you see
my mother look at me?"
—CLIPPED